

input form is substituted with a variable in a macro language file having SQL commands.

Further, Col 15, lines 1-14 of Francisco et al., which the Office Action refers to, does not disclose or suggest retrieving a code of instructions associated with the keyword from a registry of keywords for extending macro language as the Examiner suggests. Instead Col 15, lines 1-14 describe retrieving a macro language file. This retrieving does not disclose or suggest extending a macro language. Francisco et al.'s file extension ".d2w" refers to how computer files are named. As it is widely known to those skilled in computer programming, computer files may be named to have dot extensions. For example, C programs have file extension ".c", object files have file extension ".o", etc. In line with this concept of naming computer files, Francisco et al. in Col 15, lines 1-14 states that its files have extensions ".d2w". This extension, or file naming convention, has no relationship with extending macro commands as claimed in claims 1-6. Nowhere in Francisco et al., is there a suggestion of disclosure of extending its macro language.

Moreover, Col. 9, lines 7-15 of Francisco et al., which the Office Action indicates as teaching keywords in the macro language, refers to reserved keywords whose command names are already known to the macro language. On the other hand, the claims in the present application claim "commands initially unknown" to the macro language. It is submitted that reserved keywords or known keywords do not teach or suggest unknown commands. In fact, they are exactly opposite.

Similarly, the additional references made of record, "MVS Programming: Assembler Services Guide, Second Edition, September 1996, Chapter 10. Reporting Symptom Records (SYMRBLD and SYMREC Macros) on pages 10-1 to 10-9", and "Turbo Assembler

Version 3.0, User's Guide, Borland, Chapter 14, Using Macros, pages 197-212" do not suggest or disclose, alone or in combination, a method and apparatus for extensible macro language. Although these references describe programming macros, the programming is done with commands fixedly provided in the Assembler programming languages. The references do not suggest or disclose extending the programming language to handle commands "initially unknown to the macro language." If a command not known to these Assembler programming languages were used, the Assembler programs described in both references would not compile or produce error because the unknown command is not recognized in the Assembler programming language syntax.


The criterion for a determination of obviousness is whether the prior art would have suggested to one of ordinary skill in the art that the claimed invention should be carried out and would have a reasonable likelihood of success. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested in the Office Action does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification. Francisco et al., alone or in combination with any other prior art made of record, fails to suggest any motivation for, or desirability of, the changes espoused in the Office Action. Further, there is no reasonable expectation of success in combining the references to arrive at what is claimed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims in the present application are not obvious over Francisco et al.

In view of the foregoing explanation, the claims are believed to be patentable, and a favorable Office Action is hereby earnestly solicited. Also in this response additional claims are being added. Applicants believe that these new claims are also patentable over the cited references.

This communication is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and every effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance. If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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